METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING CASCADED TRIE-BASED NETWORK PACKET SEARCH ENGINES

5   ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for providing cascaded trie-based network packet search engines is provided. A search command is received at one of the network packet search engines. The search command comprises a specific search key. A determination of a longest

10 prefix match based on the specific search key is made at the network packet search engine. A determination is made at the network packet search engine regarding whether the longest prefix match comprises an overall longest prefix match among the cascaded network packet search engines such that any of the

15 cascaded network packet search engines may comprise the overall longest matching prefix independently of position relative to the other cascaded network packet search engines.